



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov



Released: October 10, 2008

Media Contact: Bill Meyer

Idaho Dry Bean Production Down

Idaho dry bean production for 2008 is forecast to be 1.54 million cwt, down 4 percent from last year's 1.60 million cwt, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Yields are expected to average 1,950 pounds per acre, an increase of 150 pounds per acre from 2007 and unchanged from the August forecast. Harvested acreage is expected to total 79,000 acres, down 11 percent from last year's 89,000 acres harvested. Dry Bean estimates include garbanzo beans, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. Production of alfalfa hay is estimated at 4.97 million tons, up 4 percent from 2007. Harvested acreage, at 1.13 million acres, is down 6 percent from last year's 1.20 million acres. Other hay production is estimated at 759,000 tons from 330,000 harvested acres, up from the 630,000 tons from 300,000 acres in 2007. Idaho sugarbeet production for 2008 is forecast to be 3.57 million tons, down 38 percent from the 5.75 million tons a year ago. Yield of 30.5 tons per acre is down from last year's 34.4 tons per acre. Harvested area of 117,000 acres is down from the 167,000 acres harvested in 2007. Corn planted for 2008 is estimated at 295,000 acres, down from 310,000 acres the previous year. Of the 295,000 acres planted, 70,000 acres are expected to be harvested for grain, down from last year's 105,000 acres harvested.

U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 25.4 million cwt for 2008, up 5 percent from the August forecast and slightly above last year. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.43 million acres, 6 percent above the August forecast but 3 percent below last year. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,772 pounds per acre, a decrease of 14 pounds from the August forecast and 56 pounds above last year. Production of corn for grain is forecast at 12.2 billion bushels, 7 percent below 2007. Production of alfalfa hay is forecast at 71.4 million tons, down 2 percent from last year. Other hay production is forecast at 79.1 million tons, up 2 percent from 2007. U.S. sugarbeet production is forecast at 28.0 million tons, 7 percent above the September forecast but 12 percent below last year's production. The yield is forecast at 26.5 tons per acre, up 1.8 ton from September and up 0.9 tons from 2007. Harvested area is expected to total 1.05 million acres, down slightly from last month and 16 percent below last year.

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.nass.usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer